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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/667,531

09/22/2003

Larry E. Maple

10010995-6

9934

7590 01/04/2007
HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
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EXAMINER

WILLS, MONIQUE M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1745

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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3 MONTHS

01/04/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/667,531	MAPLE, LARRY E.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Monique M. Wills	1745	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 October 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 36-40 and 45-48 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 36,45 and 46 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 37-40,47 and 48 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

This Office Action is responsive to the Amendment filed October 19, 2006. Claims 37-40 & 47-48 remain objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The rejection of claims 36 & 45-46 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over W.E. Reed et al. U.S. Patent 2,896,875 is overcome. However, claims 36 & 45-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Parker U.S. Patent 4,871,628.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 37-40 & 47-48 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 37-40 would be allowable over the prior art of record, because the prior art is silent to a battery-powered device comprising a coiled spring contact comprising a plurality of concentric windings contiguous with an upper

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end turn with a terminal contact point laterally offset from an axis of rotation defined by the windings.

Claim 47 would be allowable over the prior art of record, because the prior art is silent to a coiled spring contact comprising a plurality of concentric windings, wherein the rupturing means comprises at least one bend in an upper turn of the coiled spring contact, each bend having an apex facing into the battery compartment to define a terminal contact point.

Claim 48 would be allowable over the prior art of record, because the prior art is silent to a coiled spring contact comprising a plurality of concentric windings defining an axis of rotation, wherein the scarping means comprises a bend on an upper turn of the coiled spring contact laterally offset from the axis of rotation, the bend having an apex facing into the battery compartment to define a terminal contact point.

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Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

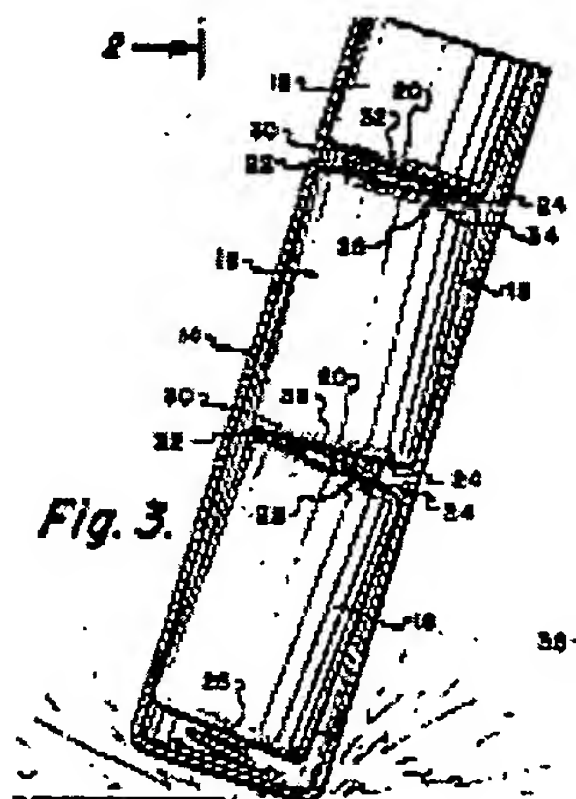
The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 36 & 45-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Parker U.S. Patent 4,871,628.

With respect to claims 36 & 45-46, Parker teaches a battery-powered device



(See figure 1) comprising coiled spring contact (26) disposed in compartment (10). With respect to claims 36 & 46, the limitation with respect to scraping

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away a portion of an insulating contaminant layer from a surface of an abutting terminal of an installed battery is considered an inherent characteristic of the spring contact (18), because the spring contact is capable of performing said function. Furthermore, the spring has enough force to re-expand and tighten the connection between the batteries (col. 2, lines 50-68). As to claim 45, the limitation with respect to means for rupturing an insulating contaminant layer on a localized region of an abutting battery terminal surface, is considered an inherent characteristic of the spring contact (18), because the spring contact is capable of performing said function. Furthermore, the spring has enough force to re-expand and tighten the connection between the batteries (col. 2, lines 50-68). Therefore, Parker anticipates the instant claims.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 36 & 45-46 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Monique Wills whose telephone number

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is (571) 272-1309. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30am to 5:00 pm.

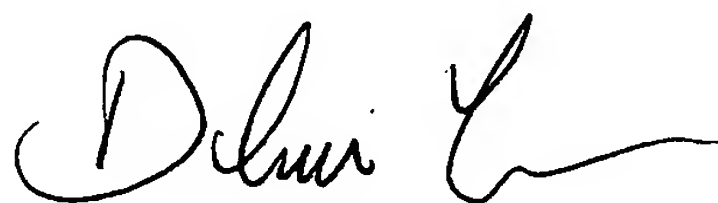
If attempts to reach Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Patrick Ryan, may be reached at 571-272-1292. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MW

12/26/06



DAH-WEIYUAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER